

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PER-03 /014 W

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P R 121253Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4564

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0048

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, SA

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT - RESIDENT STAFF

1. WITH RESIGNATION OF CONGEN'S CLERK/RECEPTIONIST (FSL POSITION NO. DH-3), POST IS EXPERIENCING GREAT DIFFICULTY IN HANDLING THE EVER-INCREASING FLOW OF CONSULAR CLIENTS. SEVERAL APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED. OF THEM, ONLY TWO MEET THE JOB REQUIREMENT OF READING, WRITING AND SPEAKING BOTH ENGLISH AND ARABIC. REGRETTABLY, THE POST WAS UNABLE TO EMPLOY EITHER. ALTHOUGH BOTH APPLICANTS WERE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE SALARY OFFERED, THE POST'S INABILITY TO PROVIDE FRINGE BENEFITS EQUAL TO THOSE RECEIVED FROM THEIR DECISION NOT TO ACCEPT THE POSITION. BOTH NOW RECEIVE HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES ROUGHLY EQUAL TO TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT OF THEIR SALARY.

2. PRESENTLY ONLY ONE FSL CONSULAR ASSISTANT AND ONE FSO CONSULAR OFFICER WORK IN CONSULAR SECTION. RECENTLY MANY OCCASIONS HAVE ARISEN WHICH REQUIRED THE ABSENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF BOTH CONSULAR OFFICER AND

ASSISTANT. SUCH A SITUATION LEAVES NO ONE FLUENT IN ARABIC AND ENGLISH WHO CAN ANSWER TELEPHONE, GREET THE PUBLIC, AND HANDLE ROUTINE CONSULAR MATTERS -- RESULTING IN DELAYS AND INCONVENIENCE TO THOSE SEEKING CONSULAR SERVICES. IN ADDITION, LACK OF RECEPTIONIST IS NOW FORCING CONS OFF TO SPEND MUCH TIME PERFORMING THIS FUNCTION. THIS NECESSARILY CAUSES NEGLECT OF
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OTHER DUTIES AND IS LEADING TO A BACKUP OF PAPERWORK.

3. THE PROPOSED LOAN OF MRS. NAKFOOR FROM UX S# BEIRUT TO THE CONGEN WOULD HELP ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION, BUT THE LOAN REMAINS VERY UNCERTAIN AT THIS TIME.

4. FROM THE POST'S POINT OF VIEW, THE MOST IMMEDIATE, ALBEIT TEMPORARY, SOLUTION FOR THE ABOVE PROBLEM WOULD BE A RESIDENT STAFF APPOINTMENT. FORTUNATELY, MRS. IBTISAMA F. BRADLEY, WIFE OF C AND R OFFICER FSSO-7 RICHARD H. BRADLEY, IS WILLING TO ACCEPT SUCH AN APPOINTMENT.

5. MRS. BRADLEY IS A NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZEN OF

JORDANIAN ORIGIN WHO READS, WRITES AND SPEAKS ENGLISH AND ARABIC FLUENTLY. A SECURITY INVESTIGATION WAS PERFORMED

IN SEPTEMBER, 1971, PRIOR TO HER MARRIAGE. AS THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR THE CLERK/RECEPTIONIST TO HANDLE CLASSIFIED MATERIAL, THE 1971 INVESTIGATION COULD PERHAPS SUFFICE AS SECURITY CLEARANCE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: SINCE THE NEED FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE RECEPTION/CONSULAR AREA HAS BECOME ACUTE, AND SINCE THE POST HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FILL FSL VACANCY, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO PROVIDE EARLIEST POSSIBLE APPROVAL FOR RESIDENT STAFF APPOINTMENT OF MRS. BRADLEY.
BUSHNELL

NOTE BY OC/T: DHAHRAN 0048, PARA 3 # AS RECEIVED.

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